



STW 2862

PATENT

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT(S) : Stephan Hell  
FOR : **SELF-CONFIGURING COMPONENT BY  
MEANS OF ARCING**  
SERIAL NO. : 10/529,468  
FILED : January 19, 2006  
EXAMINER : Unknown  
ART UNIT : 2862  
CONFIRMATION NO. : 8285  
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. : **ZHHZ 2 00020**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97, 1.98 and MPEP § 609, applicant(s) submit(s) the following Disclosure Statement concerning art of which the applicant(s) is (are) aware. A copy of PTO/SB/08 Form (renumbered from 1449) is enclosed.

This Information Disclosure Statement should not be construed to be an admission that any information referred to herein or submitted herewith is "prior art" or is considered to be material to patentability for this invention.

The United States Patent and Trademark Office OG Notice dated 12 October 2004 published a final rule revising 37 C.F.R. 1.98 dealing with the content of Disclosure Statements. Paragraph (a)(2) was revised to read in part, "A legible copy of: (i) Each foreign patent; (ii) Each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed, other than U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications unless required by the

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Office." Therefore, Applicant(s) has (have) not enclosed copies of the cited U.S. patents and published patent applications with this Information Disclosure Statement.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(g) and (h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement should not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b) exists.

☒ Under § 1.98(a)(3), a concise explanation of relevance is required for information that is not in the English language. Accordingly, the English language documents have no further explanation. Applicant submits the following comments about the German reference that does not include an English abstract.

Document AN, DE 813,563, pertains to a fuse. This document is described in the German search report, mentioned below, as a category "Y" document.

☒ All of the cited and/or included documents were cited by the German Patent Office in a related application(s). A copy of the German Search Report is enclosed.

Consideration of the appropriate paragraph(s) indicated below is respectfully requested:

☐ WITHIN THREE MONTHS OF FILING: Under § 1.97(b)(1), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of the application (or date of entry of the national stage). Although it is believed no fee is necessary, any deficiency in fees should be handled as set forth below.

☒ BEFORE FIRST OFFICE ACTION: Under § 1.97(b)(3), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. Although it is believed no fee is necessary, any deficiency in fees should be handled as set forth below.

☐ BEFORE FINAL ACTION, OR NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE, OR ACTION THAT CLOSES PROSECUTION/WITH STATEMENT: Under § 1.97(c)(1), this information shall be considered if filed before the mailing date of a final action, or a Notice of Allowance or action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application if accompanied by the statement:

Under § 1.97(e)(1), the undersigned states:

☐ A. that each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement; or

☐ B. that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

☐ **BEFORE FINAL ACTION, OR NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE, OR ACTION THAT CLOSSES PROSECUTION/WITH FEE:** Under § 1.97(c)(2), this information shall be considered if filed before the mailing date of a final action if accompanied by a fee in the amount of \$180.00 as required by §1.17(p). Accordingly, the necessary fee accompanies this Information Disclosure Statement, as set forth below.

☐ **AFTER FINAL ACTION, OR NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE, OR ACTION THAT CLOSSES PROSECUTION/AND ON OR BEFORE PAYMENT OF THE ISSUE FEE:**

1. Under § 1.97(e)(1), the undersigned states:

☐ A. that each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement; or

☐ B. that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement; **and**

2. ☐ the fee in the amount of \$180.00 as required by §1.17(p). Accordingly, the necessary fee accompanies this Information Disclosure Statement, as set forth below.

☐ **PRIORITY CLAIM:** The enclosed PTO/SB/08 includes all patents, publications, or other information previously cited by or submitted to the Office in one or more prior applications from which the present application claims priority. These one or

more prior applications are identified in the papers accompanying the filing of this application.

Any payment due for the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is authorized to be charged to a Credit Card. The appropriate form PTO-2038 is enclosed for this purpose. **If the Credit Card is unable to be charged, please charge any and all fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-0308.**

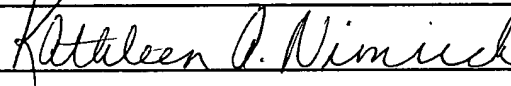
It is respectfully requested that the attached document(s) be considered and officially cited in examination of this application.

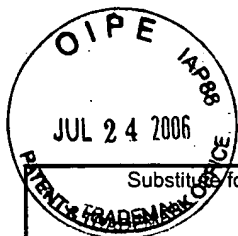
Respectfully submitted,

FAY, SHARPE, FAGAN,  
MINNICH & McKEE, LLP

July 19, 2006  
Date

  
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216-861-5582

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION	
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<input type="checkbox"/> transmitted to the USPTO by facsimile in accordance with 37 CFR 1.18 on the date indicated below.	
Express Mail Label No.:	Signature: 
Date: July 19, 2006	Name: Kathleen A. Nimrichter



<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT(S)</b>	Substitute for form 1449A/PTO		<b>Complete if Known</b>	
	Application Number		10/529,468	
	Filing Date		January 19, 2006	
	First Named Inventor		Stephan Hell	
	Art Unit		2862	
Examiner Name		Unknown		
Sheet 1 of 1		Attorney Docket No.		ZHHZ 2 00020

### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Document No. Number-Kind Code (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
	AA	US-		
	AB	US-		
	AC	US-		
	AD	US-		
	AE	US-		
	AF	US-		
	AG	US-		
	AH	US-		
	AI	US-		
	AJ	US-		
	AK	US-		
	AL	US-		

### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document Country Code-Number Kind Code (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	T
	AM	DE 37 23 832 C2	05/03/1989	Apag Elektronik (English Abstract)	<input type="checkbox"/>
	AN	DE 813 563 B	09/13/1951	Allen West & Company Limited	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	AO	DE 690 21 493 T2	02/01/1996	Littelfuse B.V. (corresponds to EP 0423897 A1 which is in English text)	<input type="checkbox"/>
	AP	EP 0 423 897 A1	04/24/1991	Littelfuse Tracor B.V. (corresponds to DE 690 21 493 T2)	<input type="checkbox"/>
	AQ	GB 23 20 984 A	07/08/1998	Rover Group Limited (English Text)	<input type="checkbox"/>

### OTHER - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume/issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T
	AR		<input type="checkbox"/>
	AS		<input type="checkbox"/>
	AT		<input type="checkbox"/>

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Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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